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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/500,736	07/01/2004	Yoshifumi Kachi	039.0025	6690
29453	7590	01/08/2007	EXAMINER	
JUDGE & MURAKAMI IP ASSOCIATES DOJIMIA BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR 6-8 NISHITEMMA 2-CHOME, KITA-KU OSAKA-SHI, 530-0047 JAPAN			PAIK, SANG YEOP	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
				3742
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		01/08/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/500,736	KACHI ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Sang Y. Paik	3742	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 November 2006.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ . 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 2, 3, 5 and 9-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Ito et al (US 6,465,763).

Ito shows the device claimed including a substantially disk shaped ceramic substrate with first and second opposing faces and a side face perpendicular to the first and second faces, a resistive heating element provided either on a surface or inside the ceramic substrate with a diameter having the diameter of 150 mm or 200 mm with the side face of the ceramic substrate having the surface roughness of .1 to 200 microns. Having such roughness would extend the arbitrary maximum outer diameter to either 150.2 mm or 200.2 mm along the thickness of the susceptor which would yield the diameter difference of .13% or .1%, respectively, with respect the outer diameter having 150 or 200 mm along the susceptor wafer-support side. Since this is the maximum difference, it meets the recited range of .8% or less of the average diameter which is less than the maximum diameter, or in alternative, would have been less than the maximum diameter.

Ito also shows that the ceramic substrate is made of aluminum nitride having the thermal conductivity more than 180 W/mK with the resistive heating element made of tungsten

or molybdenum provided thereto; Ito further shows that the ceramic substrate can be made of silicon nitride which the applicant discloses as having a thermal conductivity of 20 W/mK.

With respect to the temperature uniformity being $\pm .5$ percent or ± 1 percent, such properties or functions are presumed inherent when the structure recited in the prior art is substantially identical to that of the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4, 6, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito et al (US 6,465,763) in view of Yoshida et al (US 6,080,970) or Kawada et al (US 5,66,260).

Ito shows the device claimed except having a plasma electrode.

Yoshida and Kawada show it is known in the art to provide a ceramic heater with an electrode when heating a semiconductor wafer to either provide the plasma heating and or the electrostatic attraction force. In view of Yoshida or Kawada, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to adapt Ito with an electrode to improve the heating and treating process of an object such as a wafer by creating the plasma or the electrostatic force for uniform heating across the wafer.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 11/15/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues the recited "arbitrary plane" should be taken to mean "in any plane whatsoever, taken at any angle whatsoever" and given such meaning, the recited difference is not shown by the Ito reference. This argument is not deemed persuasive, since as stated by the applicant, an arbitrary plane could be any plane taken at any angle, and as such when the arbitrary plane is taken along the thickness of the susceptor at a right angle, perpendicular to the wafer support side, the maximum diameter would extend to 150.2 mm or 200.2 mm for a 150 mm or 200 mm susceptor, respectively. This extension of the diameter is based on the disclosure of Ito which discloses that the side face of the susceptor having the Rmax of .1 to 200 microns. The applicant argues that Ito mentions in Examples 1 and 8 that the susceptor having the diameter of 210 mm with a surface roughness of Rmax of 7 microns. However, it is noted that the Ito invention as whole makes the reference to the importance of the side face having the Rmax of .1 to 200 microns which is along the thickness of the susceptor. Thus, given the importance of the microscopic measurements of the ceramic susceptor, the recited difference of the between the maximum diameter and the minimum diameter is clearly taught by Ito.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sang Y. Paik whose telephone number is 571-272-4783. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:00-4:00) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robin Evans can be reached on 571-272-4777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Sang Y Paik
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3742

syp